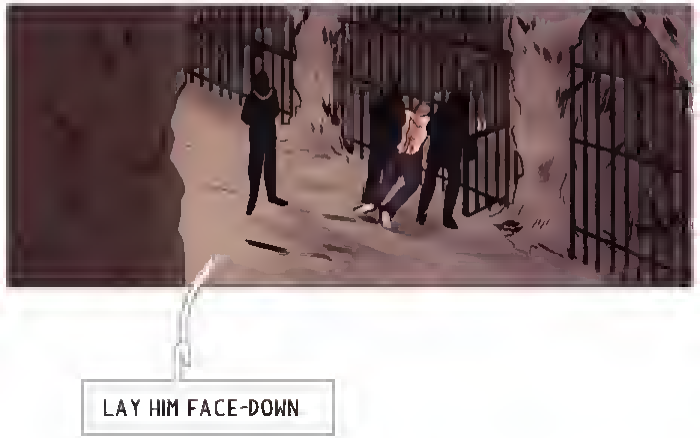
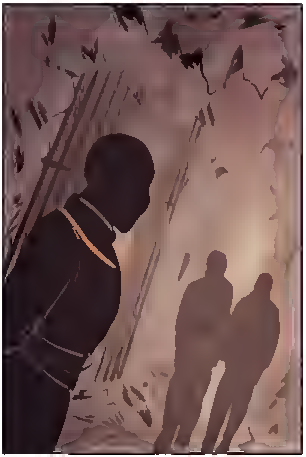
UNDER THE AEGIS

BY VIMEODIEE


LAY HIM FACE-DOWN

CLANG



IT'LL ONLY GET WORSE FOR YOU UNLESS YOU TALK

YOU THINK I'M AN IDIOT? I KNOW THAT. I'D NEVER BETRAY THEM.

I'M NOT *YOU*

AND PUT THE MASK BACK ON. I CAN'T STAND TO EVEN *LOOK* AT YOU

WHAT HAPPENED TO MY SISTER
WAS THAT AN ACCIDENT?

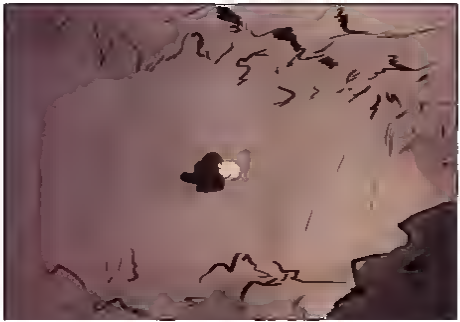
IT WAS A GAS EXPLOSION.
I'M NOT ASKING IF IT WAS A GAS EXPLOSION, I'M ASKING IF IT WAS AN *ACCIDENT*.

CRACK

YOU *KNEW*. ALL THIS TIME YOU KNEW THE TRUTH AND I LET YOU COMFORT US! I LET YOU NEAR *MATTIE*--
I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT INCIDENT--

IS THERE ANY PART OF YOU THAT'S EVEN *REAL*? HOW CAN YOU LIVE WITH YOURSELF AND YOUR *LIES*?!

GET AWAY FROM ME.



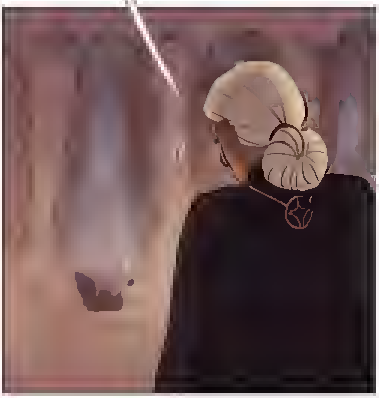
THE ONSET OF WAR IS A BLESSING IN DISGUISE. IT DRAWS ATTENTION AWAY FROM US. ALTHOUGH IT MEANS I HAVE MUCH MORE WORK TO DO...

MAYBE WE SHOULD LET THE WIELDERS COME TO US. ARGUS WILL BE HARD TO BREAK, BUT IT CAN BE DONE. TIME HOWEVER ISN'T ON OUR SIDE.

EITHER HE TALKS, OR THE WIELDERS COME LOOKING FOR HIM. I'LL PREPARE THE ASSASSINS FOR WHICHEVER HAPPENS FIRST.

PLACE A HEAVY GUARD AROUND THE STAFF AND IF THE WIELDERS DO FIND US, HAVE ARGUS EXECUTED. HE'S A LOOSE END.

I TRUST YOU'LL BE ABLE TO HANDLE THAT?

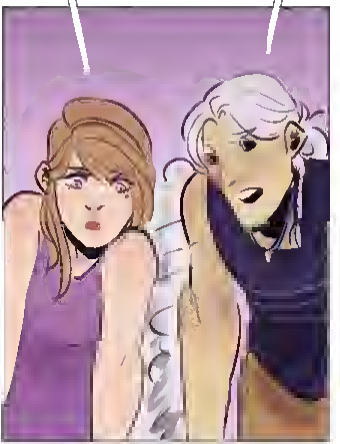


I'LL DO WHAT NEEDS TO
BE DONE FOR OUR FAMILY
JUST AS YOU DID

THE CORRIDOR FROM THE IMAGE SHILOH AND SAM SENT US IS FROM THE SOUTH-WEST WING. IT WAS RENOVATED JUST IN TIME FOR COUNCILWOMAN ALLURA TO TAKE OFFICE

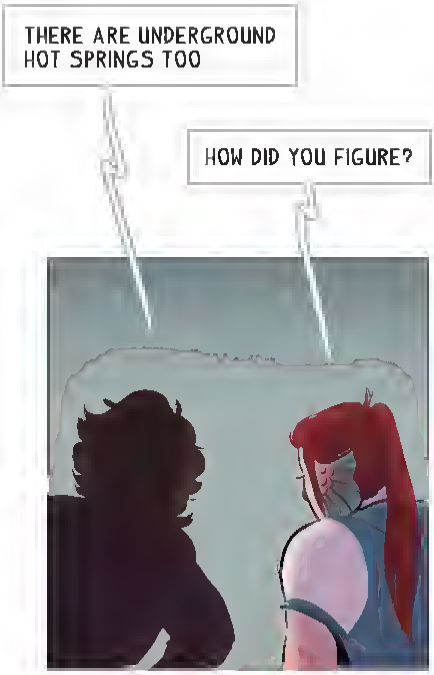
THE ENTIRE HALL IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN BUILT OVER SOME CATACOMBS ALMOST A THOUSAND YEARS AGO.

WE'VE BEEN WALKIN' OVER IT THIS WHOLE TIME? I GUESS IT HELPS TO HAVE SHILOH'S STAFF-DETECTING POWER THINGY.



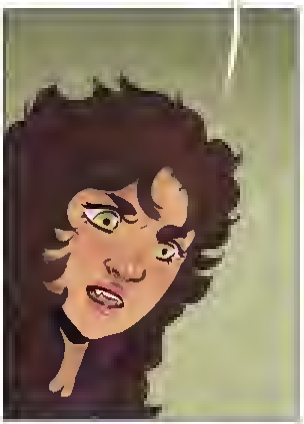
CATACOMBS OR CAVES

IT'S AN OLD MAP OF A NETWORK OF CAVES THAT RUN BENEATH BASILEIA


THERE ARE UNDERGROUND HOT SPRINGS TOO
HOW DID YOU FIGURE?

SOME PLACES SMELLED LIKE ROTTEN EGGS, IT'S SULPHUR FROM HOT SPRINGS

WE HAVE SOME NORTH OF FENN VALLEY, THEY SMELL THE SAME AND THEY'RE ALSO UNDERGROUND

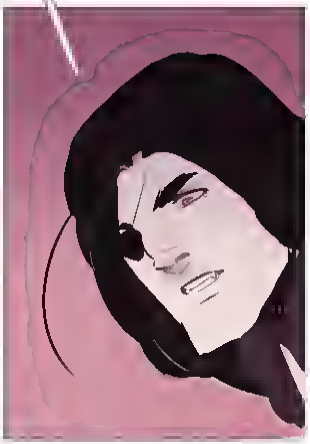


THE NIGHT THE ASSASSINS ATTACKED US AT THE WIELDER HOUSE, WE SMELLED TRACES OF SULPHUR

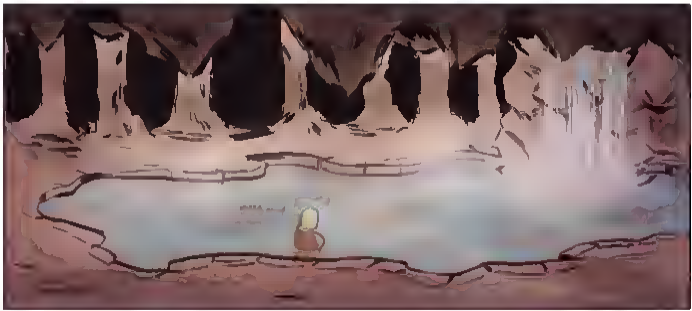
AND THE FACT THAT THE ASSASSINS HAVE ALWAYS SEEMED TO FIND US SO QUICKLY CONFIRMS THEY ARE OPERATING FROM THIS CAVE SYSTEM.

SOMEONE AT THE SYNEDRION MUST BE AWARE OF THIS.

WE CAN'T TRUST ANY OF THE SYNEDRION AND WE KNOW THAT THE ASSASSINS DEFINITELY HAVE THE STAFF. USING IT TO FIND GHATIKAN WIELDERS.



SO...IF WE GO THERE TO FIND SHILOH'S STAFF...
WE'LL FIND THE BAD GUYS TOO.

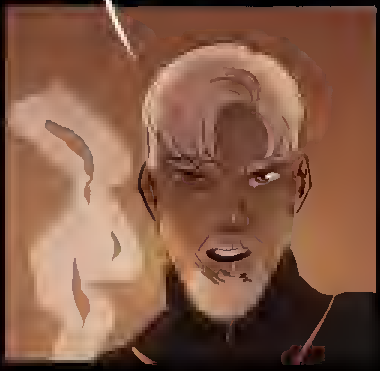


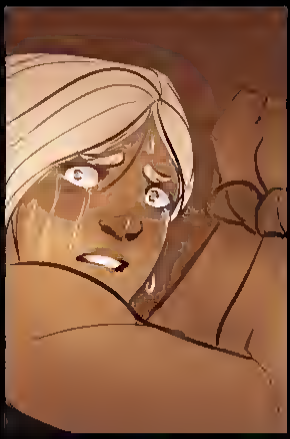
ANYONE WHO SAYS YOU CAN
CONTROL OTHERS THROUGH
FEAR OR LOVE IS A FOOL

PEOPLE CAN BE MADE TO LOVE OR FEAR THROUGH PAIN.
THAT'S WHERE YOU GAIN CONTROL.
P-PLEASE, F-FATHER--

--AND TO INFLICT PAIN YOU HAVE TO *KNOW* IT.

I BEAR THIS MARK, AS DID MY FATHER BEFORE ME. WE FULFILLED OUR DUTY.

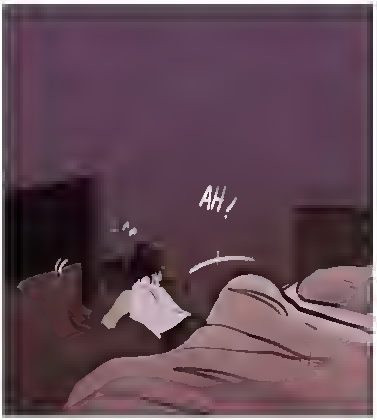




SO DON'T YOU DARE FAIL ME

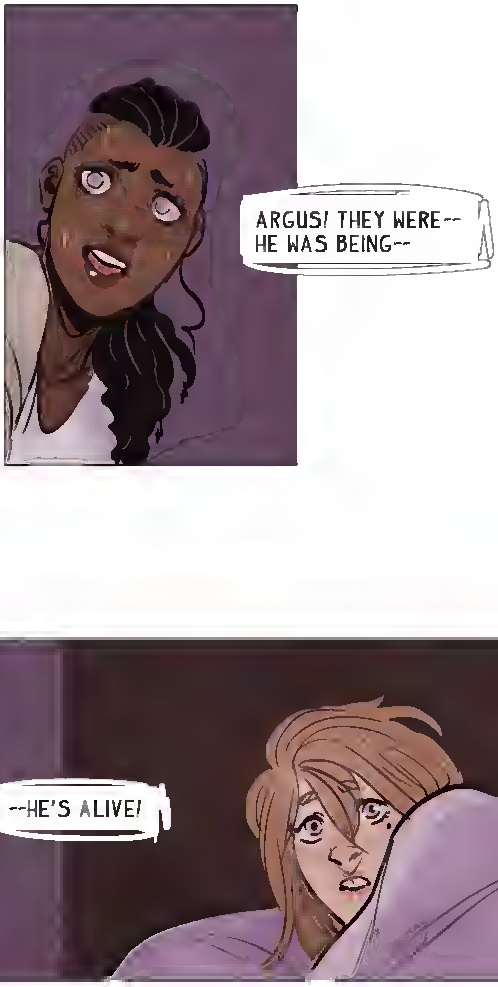
I'M DONE HERE COME
AND ATTEND ME

GASP!


AH!

MATTIE! WAKE UP!

WHU-?--


ARGUS! THEY WERE--
HE WAS BEING--
--HE'S ALIVE!